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Docket No. 22750/350

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
GROUP ART UNIT 1733

DE
9/11/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Peter PFEUFFER

Serial No.: 08/900,254

Filing Date: July 25, 1997

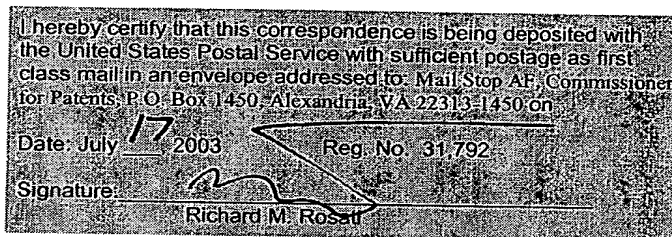
For: FILTER MATERIAL, METHOD
OF ITS MANUFACTURE, AND
APPARATUS FOR
MANUFACTURING A FILTER
MATERIAL

Group Art Unit: 1733

Examiner: Yao, S.

Confirmation No.: 7919

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

In response to the Final Office Action dated June 3, 2003, please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 without prejudice as follows:

- K1
1. (Four Times Amended) A method for manufacturing a pleated filter material from a thermally bonded non-woven fabric, comprising :
 - forming a single fibrous web from undrawn and drawn synthetic fibers;
 - pre-heating the fibrous web;
 - calendering the single fibrous web in a single calendering step without subsequent re-heating, wherein during the single calendering step, the undrawn fibers in the single fibrous web are bonded in a tension-free manner between non-